Report of November 5, 2002 Mitigation Subcommittee Meeting to the NTHMP Steering Committee

Multi-State Projects:

Status - Engineering Guidance Project – The Mitigation Subcommittee agrees that this is the first priority for multi-state projects. The first phase (FY 02 multi-state project) is a mid-November engineer workshop led by Washington State and including engineers from all five states to explore possible options for a combination of tsunami force and severe ground shaking structural mitigation. Those could be turned into a construction guidance document (phase two, FY 03 core multi-state project). FEMA Coastal Construction Manual staff are interested in including additional engineering guidance from this group. Mike Mahoney, FEMA HQ will attend the workshop.

Resolution – Options were discussed and the majority voted to retain the second phase (the document product) as a FY 03 core multi-state item led by Washington.

Action - Rich Eisner will contact the Earthquake Engineering Research Institute (EERI) to include their expertise. FEMA National Earthquake Office is interested in working on a tsunami publication this year and Chris Jonientz will discuss this project with FEMA HQ staff at the appropriate time.

Status – Social Science Tool The Mitigation Subcommittee has agreed that this is the second priority for multi-state projects in answer to the 5-year program review comments from Dennis Mileti dealing with our current inability to measure whether our products are changing behavior. It is agreed that the project requires more definition.

Resolution - It is an enhanced multi-state project for FY 03. The subcommittee voted to make it a back-up core mitigation project this year to the engineering project if that required no funding or it will become a core project in FY 04.

Action – Subcommittee members will define the project and provide input if funded.

Status – Recovery Manual The Subcommittee agreed that more definition of the project is required. There are questions of response vs. mitigation, whether it should be all-hazard or economic recovery of small businesses. There are documents in existence that can be researched as a starting point.

Resolution - The Mitigation Subcommittee has agreed that this will remain an enhanced project.

Action – Rich Eisner will provide copies of Marjorie Green's old Recovery Plan.

Discussion of a Post-Disaster Clearinghouse:

Hawaii provided documents describing their concept for a clearinghouse. The purpose of their document is to take advantage of any disaster programs. Part of the plan is to collect perishable data. The data will be accessible to emergency managers, news media, etc.

Speaker – Native American Oral Histories and Relation to Earthquake/Tsunamis Ruth Ludwin, University of Washington, gave a presentation describing her process of identifying earthquake/tsunami "elements" in local Native American oral histories.